

**TOWN OF SALEM  
RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.  
SALEM TOWN HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 1**

**PRESENT**

Alan Maziarz, Chairperson  
Mary Jean Blezard  
Mary Durkee  
Crispin Fresco-Hawes  
Amanda Lawrence  
Teri Natoli

**ABSENT**

Art Bergman  
Jessica Fletcher

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Maziarz called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**2. Act on a Motion to Approve the Minutes of September 20, 2021**

**M/S/C: Natoli/Fresco-Hawes, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2021. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.**

**3. Adjustments to the Agenda – *none***

**4. Public Comment/Guests/Correspondence**

An e-mail received by Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission (IWCC) Chairperson Kimberly Bradley, who was in attendance, was read into the record. IWCC Chairperson Bradley was seeking information regarding an unapproved bridge that was installed along the town's Harris Brook Trail. Chairman Maziarz stated that the bridge was installed unbeknownst to the Commission and acknowledged an invoice that was recently received to repair the bridge after it was washed out during the recent storm. IWCC Chairperson Bradley stated the IWCC's willingness to provide any necessary guidance to the Commission to ensure that the activity follows the proper procedures and is executed in a manner that protects both the watercourses and the public's safety. Chairman Maziarz expressed his appreciation to IWCC Chairperson Bradley for contacting them and attending their meeting and stated his plans to attend the IWCC's November meeting.

IWCC Chairperson Bradley expressed her appreciation to the Commission for all of their hard work and, on a side note, she informed them that she will be seeking information regarding the town's trails as part of an effort to gather information from Connecticut municipalities to add to a Statewide Trailfinder website (cttrailfinder.com).

**5. Report on the Budget: Alan Maziarz**

Chairman Maziarz reported that the Commission's maintenance line item is nearly expended due to the porta-potty rental costs. With the exception of the Pavilion, all of the porta-potties

will be removed on November 1. The porta-potties at the Pavilion will be removed on November 15 following the Soft Opening event for the Disc Golf Course.

He also reported that an invoice from *Odd Job Home Repair* to repair the damage of the newly installed bridge that was damaged during the recent storm was received.

**6. Recreation Program Coordinator's Report: Agnes Miyuki**

Programs in process include:

Adult Tennis

Tuesdays, September 21 – October 26, (no class September 28) 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.,  
Round Hill Road Tennis Courts

Thursdays, September 23 – October 28, (no class September 30) 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.,  
Round Hill Road Tennis Courts

Upcoming Programs include:

Skyhawks Beginning Golf (Ages 6-10)

Saturdays, October 30 to November 27, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Round Hill Road Soccer  
Field

Basic Dog Obedience Class (Ages 12 & up)

Wednesdays, October 27 to December 15 (no class November 24), 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.,  
Salem Community Park Pavilion

Salem Seniors and Stroller Walking

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 7:00 to 8:00 a.m., Salem School Hallways  
Saturdays, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Salem School Hallways

Future Programs include:

Skyhawks Volleyball

Skyhawks Cheerleading

Virtual Coding Camp

Vintage Baseball Game(s)

Minds in Motion Camps

Chi Kung & Tai Chi Classes

**7. Public Works Report: Don Bourdeau, Tony Gallicchio**

The town has requested that a Citizen Comment Form be completed and submitted to the First Selectman's office for any requests for the Public Works Department. Chairman Maziarz has submitted two forms requesting (1) the installation/replacement of the threshold to the Round Hill Road fields Concession Door to block critters from entering the building and (2) the mowing of the Salem Community Park field prior to the November 6 Disc Golf Soft Opening and Tournament event. A brief discussion was held regarding the receipt of the status of their requests.

**8. Unfinished Business**

**a. Dog Park – Committee Update**

The Dog Park Committee will be drafting a Letter of Intent, which will include the site selection, and begin the approval process with the town's relevant boards and commissions. Chairman Maziarz will guide them through the process. The Committee is in the process of investigating the possible need to acquire an additional insurance policy. Commissioner Blezard suggested the Committee seek information from other towns with dog parks; it is her understanding that the Colchester Dog Park is wholly covered under the town's policy. Commissioner Natoli also suggested contacting the Town Attorney for advisement. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of the Dog Park Committee creating its own separate non-profit entity.

**b. Ice Rink/Volleyball 2021 – Location & Install**

The ice rink/volleyball courts will be located at the Volunteer Park/Forsyth Road field; the installation process will begin next year and the proper paperwork and requests will be submitted accordingly.

**c. Trails & Kiosk/Info Center – Disc Golf, Emergency Trail Markers**

The burial site location, which cuts into disc golf hole number two, has been identified and the stones and mulch have been placed.

**d. Disc Golf – 11/06 Tourney & Subcommittee Plan**

Chairman Maziarz reported that the tee boxes have been completed and a landscaper has agreed to sponsor one of the holes and help maintain holes four and five. A railing will be installed on one of the platforms.

The Grand Opening event will not be held on November 6, due to the lack of time to properly organize the event. The event will be held in the Spring and invitations will be extended to elected officials and will be comprised of introductory clinics and tournaments. The November 6 event will be hosted by the Connecticut Disc Golf Foundation and a separate insurance policy has been obtained. The tournament was sold out with 72 participants in 40 minutes.

Similar to the Dog Park, a Disc Golf Subcommittee that will eventually become its own separate non-profit entity will be formed.

**e. Forsyth Volunteer Pavilion – Builder(s)**

*The item will be moved to item 8(b) Ice Rink/Volleyball.*

**f. Pickleball – Repaint, New Proposal, Winter Option**

The repainting of the pickleball lines on one of the tennis courts has been completed. Each of the pickleball courts is positioned between the fence and the tennis net, rather than sideways, as originally conceived. Due to the distraction the covering of the lines would create on the other court, the company proposed completely repainting the court

for a discounted fee of \$2,000.00 (original cost, \$4,500.00). The Commissioners were encouraged to review the courts prior to a final decision being made.

**g. Round Hill Recreation Complex – Amenities & Path Update**

A Citizen Comment Form will be submitted to lay down gravel and complete the Recreation Trail around the Round Hill Road Fields.

**h. Adult Kickball – Spreading the Word**

Very few responses were received to the survey. The Commissioners discussed promoting Adult Kickball during the Spring and starting a Summer series.

**9. New Business**

**a. Halloween – Trunk or Treat**

**M/S/C: Maziarz/Durkee, to approve the allocation of up to \$300.00 for the 2021 Trunk or Treat event. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor.**

**b. Winter Court Reservations Made – Baseball, Basketball & Volleyball**

Chairman Maziarz reported that requests have been made submitted to Salem School to reserve the Gymnasium/Multi-Purpose Room for the following activities:

Adult Volleyball, Fridays, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Contact Person: James Morrison)

Adult Basketball, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Salem Youth Baseball League (SYBL) Baseball/Softball, Mondays & Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

As of last week, 66 Salem children (grades K-8) have registered to play on the East Lyme Youth Basketball.

**c. Spring Concert – Planning Stage**

The *Professors of Sweet Music* band will be added to the list of possible bands for the 2022 Spring (May/June) and/or (end of August) Summer Concert.

**d. Disc Golf – Spring Grand Opening Event – Planning Stage**

As previously stated, Recreation will be organizing a two-day Spring Disc Golf Grand Opening event comprised of the Grand Opening being held on Saturday, May 1 and a Tournament on Sunday, May 2. The Grand Opening would be a family event for, primarily, residents and the Tournament would be for amateur/professional players in which residents would be encouraged to participate. Discussion ensued regarding the budget process and the handling of future expenses.

**10. Adjournment**

**M/S/C: Fresco-Hawes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by: Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem